

MARCH 26, 2017

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

10:45 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

Jason W. Crosby

And also with you.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Please take a moment to complete the section at the top of the insert, fold and tear it off at the perforation and put it in the offering plate. Or, you may share contact info or comments with us by sending a text message to 502-295-0285.

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

PRELUDE

Spring

Antonio Vivaldi
Four Seasons

INVOCATION

If spoken in a language that is unfamiliar to you, worshippers are invited to silently pray for God's presence to be felt in hearts and minds through our worship.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 426

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

BEACH SPRING

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 9:1-25

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. "When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews;

for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE

As Christ did, we are called into the wilderness during these forty days.

Help us to confront our mortality and the darkness within us and around us.

Unlike Christ, we confess unto You that we often choose that which is not You to comfort us.

Forgive us, O Lord, for being led into temptation, for turning away from the path before us lit by Your light.

Yet, the light of Christ's love and grace constantly abide with us as we go.

We give You thanks, O Lord, that when confess our failures unto you, you do not let us go and our pardon is assured.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Christus Paradox: Choral Variations on PICARDY

Alfred Fedak

Chancel Choir; June Bailey, conductor; Louie Bailey, piano

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.

You, peacemaker and swordbringer of the way you took and gave.

You the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might up on the cross,

Shining in eternal glory, beggar'd by a soldier's toss,

You the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.

You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.

You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that teaches wide.

You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!

Worthy your defeat and vict'ry, worthy still you peace and strife.

You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

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CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Andrea V. Woolley

*HYMN OF LENT 557

Open My Eyes That I May See

SCOTT

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

CLEAR AS MUD

Jason W. Crosby

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jan Cox-Gedmark

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Karen Choir

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme I will sing,
I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing! Amen. Appalachian folk hymn, 1811

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY

We gladly welcome all who desire to unite with the community of faith at Crescent Hill Baptist Church to come forward during the Hymn of Response and share that decision with the minister.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 532

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

BENEDICTION

Jason W. Crosby

SILENCE

POSTLUDE

Morning Reflections

Louie Bailey

* Worshipers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

- CDs of today's service may be ordered through the church office.
- Texts are reprinted by permission of CCLI License 1801331 and One License A718444.
- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. However, if you are uncomfortable doing that but would like to explore baptism or church membership, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you following worship.
- Cover: The ALPHA and OMEGA Cross – This cross includes a cross placed between the first letter of the Greek alphabet, ALPHA, and the last letter of the Greek alphabet, OMEGA. The Alpha and Omega represent one of God's characteristics: God is the beginning of all things and the ending of all things.